

Pope celebrates Canadian saints at Thanksgiving mass

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Pope Francis leads a thanksgiving mass for Canadian Saints in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican, October 12, 2014. REUTERS/Giampiero Sposito

Pope Francis celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving for two Canadian saints Sunday.

St. Francois de Laval and St. Marie de l'Incarnation were two 17th Century missionaries were canonized by Pope Francis through an 'equivalent canonization' on April 3rd.

Cardinal Thomas Collins, the Archbishop of Toronto, told Vatican Radio the mass was “a tremendous occasion for us Canadians.”

He said St. Francois de Laval and St. Marie de l'Incarnation “hold up to us the example of how to live our lives, and also, of course, they intercede for us heaven.”

“I think it's wonderful [for] our little portion of the flock to have this celebration at St Peter's, really centre of the Church in this world,” Collins said. “And right over the tomb of Peter, we'll be celebrating a mass calling to mind and asking the intercession Canadian saints from our very small portion of the universal Church.”

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